

Town of Bremen  
Conservation Commission Approved Minutes  
Bremen Library  
May 1, 2019

BCC Members Present: Susan Davis, Terry Marsh, Ann Nesslage, Mary Voskian

BCC Members Excused: Daniel Ungier, Christa Thorpe

Selectman Liaison Excused: Wendy Pieh

BCC Associate Members Present: Virginia Betts, Mary Berger

Guest Present: Eric Snyder

Ann Nesslage called the meeting to order at 5:35

For purposes of this meeting Virginia Betts and Mary Berger are voting members.

We moved, seconded and voted to approve the April 3, 2019 minutes.

Ann told us that Christa has resigned from the Bremen Conservation Commission. She has been the heart of the commission with spirit and energy. Christa plans to be at the trail work days and continue to be involved that way. We will miss her. Christa's job at the Island Institute is the reason she is stepping down. Christa's beautifully written town report has been submitted. Thanks Christa!. We noted that it is a great template for future reports.

Mary Voskian reported for the Town Center Planning Committee. She has attended a workshop about the Maine State Land and Water Conservation Fund grants. Mary Berger noted that the Maine Conservation Corps is a good resource. Mary Voskian is continuing to work with Travis Pryor to make sure the location of the library septic system is marked in the planning documents that Travis created. Mary Voskian said finding funding is the next step. Jane Carroll is a big help, with her fundraising experience.

Susan Davis shared a completed document utilizing a template given to her by Joan Ray. The Hay Conservation and Recreation Area is the property described. We all loved the template and encouraged her to use it for all the identified properties. This baseline survey will record the condition of each property. Susan was encouraged to submit her costs. Susan also has a monitoring form. Susan noted that the town website should be updated to make it easier to access information about town public access properties. We thanked Susan for this great start. We would like to establish a regular monitoring schedule. It was suggested that two people should work together. Ann will monitor the Hay Conservation and Recreation Area. Susan Davis will monitor Clam Island.

Our next topic was the Trail Work Days planned for the fourth Saturday May through October. Ann will ask Christa to send a digital image of her poster from last year. We will update and make new posters. Terry will distribute the posters and attend the Trail Work Days. We plan to meet at the Hilton O'Connor Trail.

The Weston Spring Property was discussed at the last meeting and we need to visit. We plan to meet on May 8 at 4:00 at the property. We will decide if we want to recommend a path to the shore. We will look for a good location for a sign. Bring clippers and the map.

*To review from the April 3 minutes:*

*Visit the site as a group*

*Test the water in the well and at the shore*

*Obtain a copy of the deed*

*Establish where the actual borders are*

*decide if this is a viable place for public access?*

*If so, we would need to clear a path and mark it. A sign with some historical information is another suggestion.*

Eric Snyder told us about the upcoming open house event at the Audubon Center August 31 10-3. He invited us to participate, perhaps with an education table. There will be boats going back and forth to Hog Island. Eric will bring information so it can be shared at the Garden Tour event July 17. Eric also will talk with Yvonne Gloede about coming to speak at the library. Mary Voskian will give Eric's contact to Yvonne. Eric noted that Hog Island is open to the public, and is on the Maine Islands Trail system.

Ann shared documents relating to the task of updating the ordinance for the Bremen Conservation Commissions scope of responsibilities. A Bylaws of the Town of Poland was given to Ann by Hank Nevins. Susan Davis will work on creating a document that reflects our original mission statement and incorporates the bylaws. Ann will find out how soon the select board is hoping to have our suggestions.

There followed a talk about the recent select board meeting.

I departed at 7:00. The meeting ended soon thereafter.

Reminder:

*Our Trail Work events will be on Saturdays from 9-11 as follows: May 25, June 22, July 27, August 24, Sept 28, Oct 26. We plan to meet at The Hilton O'Connor Trail on May 25.*

Our next meeting is June 5, 2019 starting at 5:30 PM.

Thanks, Terry Marsh (minute recorder for the BCC)